

*"We don't grow into  
creativity, we grow  
out of it. Or rather, we  
get educated out of it."  
Sir Ken Robinson*

Sir Ken Robinson



# Sir Ken Robinson

- 1950: Born in Liverpool, England to working class family (6 siblings)
- 1954: Contracted polio at age 6 and attended a special needs school
- 1968: In college, studied English and Drama
- 1981: Received PhD researching drama and theater in education
- “Education is taking us into a future we cannot grasp.”
- 1985: Director of “The Arts in Schools Project”
- 1988: Professor of Education at University of Warwick
- 2001: Senior Advisor of Education and Creativity at Getty Museum
- 2003: Knighted by Queen Elizabeth for his services to the Arts
- Currently: Speaks to audiences throughout the world on the creative challenges facing business and education in the new global economies.

# To engage and succeed, education has to develop on three fronts.

- 1. Foster diversity by offering a broad curriculum and encourage individualization of the learning process
  - 2. Foster curiosity through creative teaching (which depends on high quality teacher training and development)
  - 3. Focus on awakening creativity through alternative didactic processes (less emphasis on standardized testing thereby giving the responsibility for defining the course of education to individual schools and teachers.)
- 
- Present education system in the US fosters conformity, compliance, and standardization rather than creative approaches to learning.
  - Education is an organic system, not a mechanical one.

# Changing the Education Paradigm

- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=zDZFcDGpL4U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zDZFcDGpL4U)





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# Connection (Ch.11: Interests, Curiosity, Emotions, and Anxiety)

- As part of your interview for a job in a large high school, the principal asks,

“How would you get students interested in learning?

Could you tap your interests in your teaching?”

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# Connection (Ch.8: Defining Creativity)

- Creativity: Imaginative, original thinking or problem solving
  - Often involves more than one person
  - Happens when people apply their abilities as part of a helpful process in a supportive environment
  - Results in an identifiable product that is new and useful to a culture or situation



# Connection (Ch.8: Big C Revolutionary Innovation)

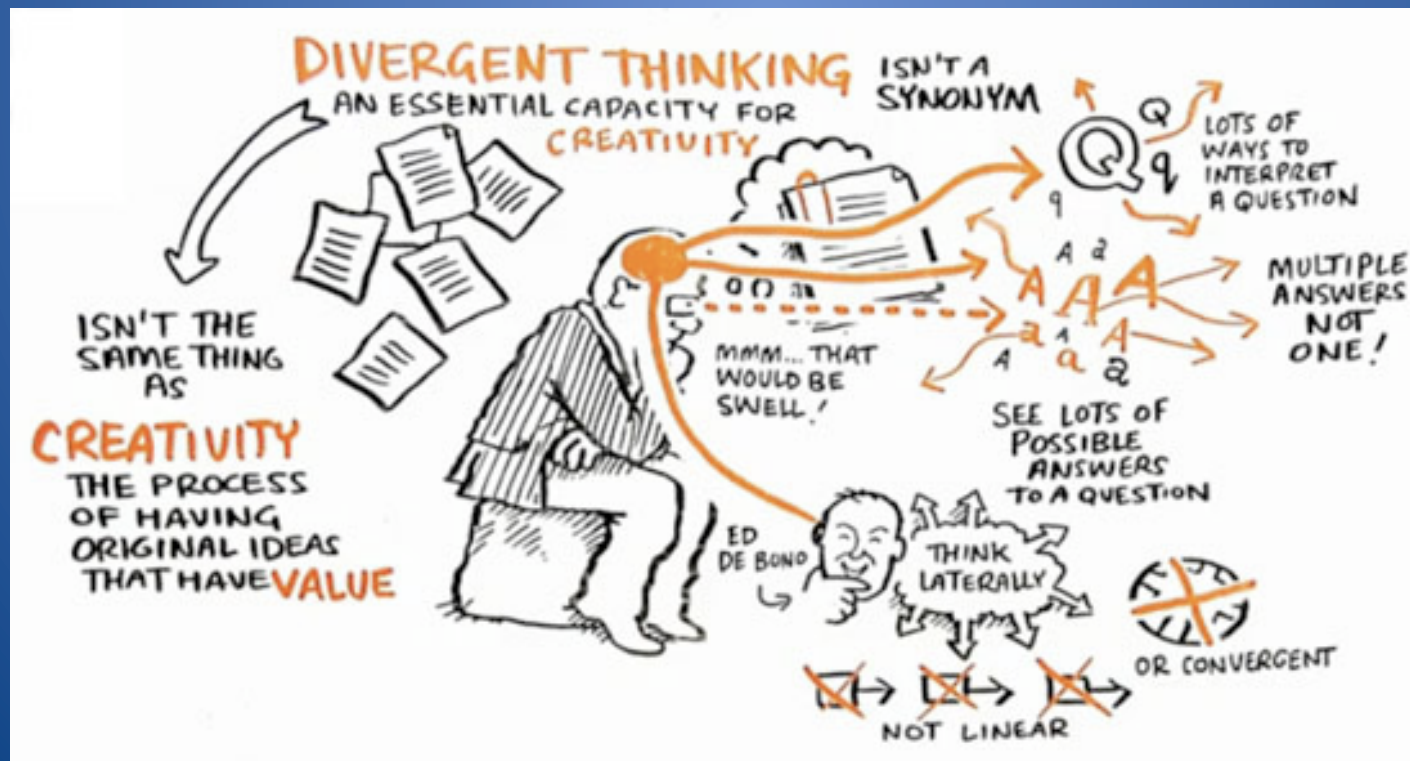
- Innovators usually have encouragement from early childhood (Gardner)
  - Avoid pushing so hard that the child's intrinsic passion to master a field becomes a craving for extrinsic rewards
  - Avoid pushing so hard that the child later looks back on a missed childhood
  - Avoid freezing the child into a safe, technically perfect way of performing that has led to lavish rewards
  - Be aware of the psychological wounds that can follow when the child who can perform becomes the forgotten adult who can do nothing more

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# Connection (Ch.8: Assessing Creativity)

- Divergent Thinking: Ability to come up with many possible solutions (Convergent Thinking: Narrowing possibilities to a specific answer)





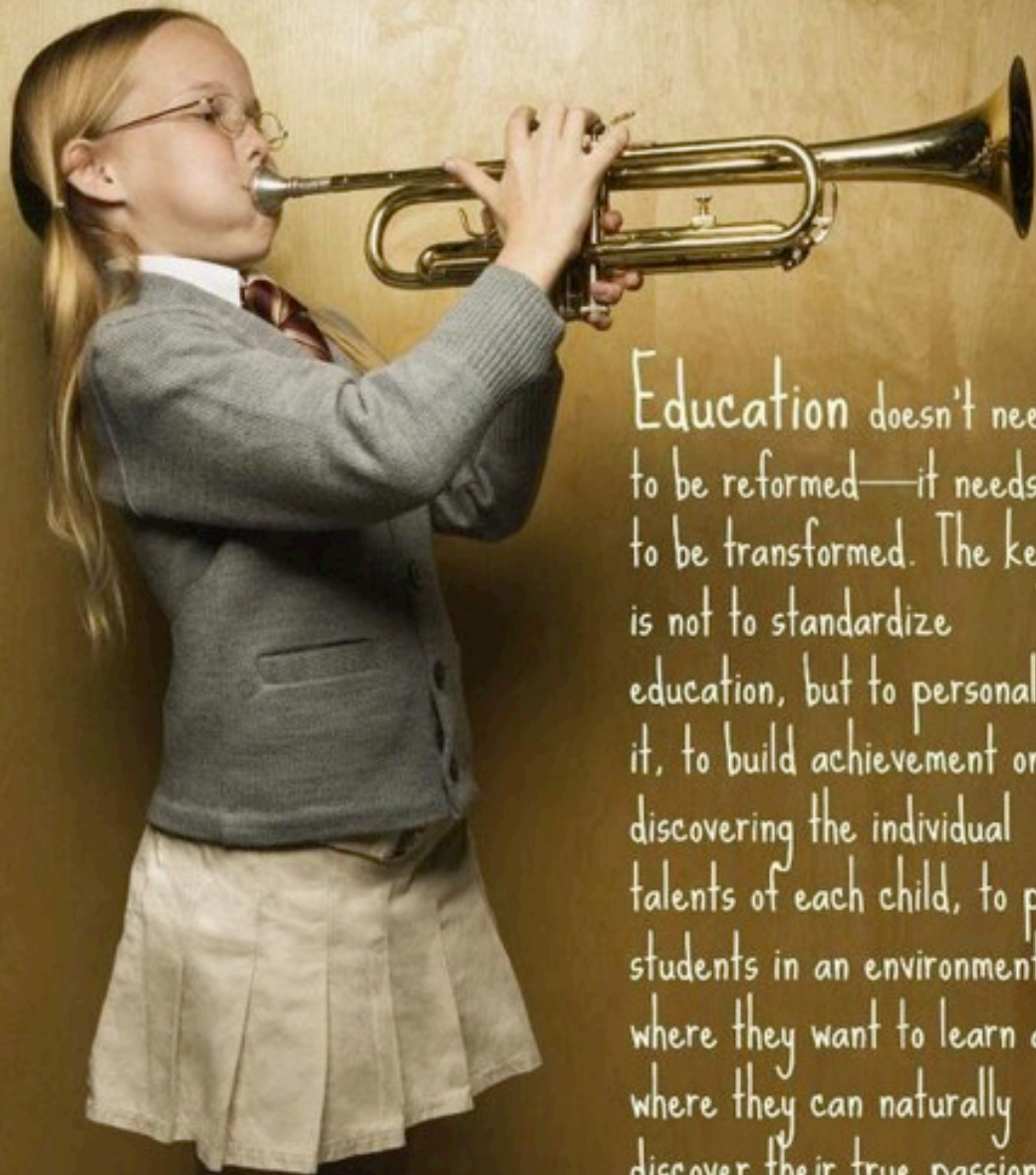
How many uses can you think  
of for a paper clip?

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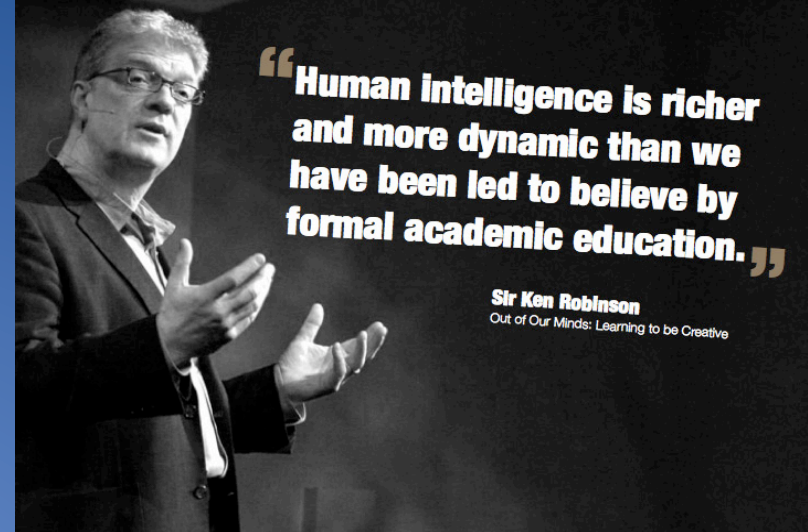
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=zDZFcDGpL4U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=zDZFcDGpL4U)







Education doesn't need to be reformed—it needs to be transformed. The key is not to standardize education, but to personalize it, to build achievement on discovering the individual talents of each child, to put students in an environment where they want to learn and where they can naturally discover their true passions.  
--Ken Robinson



**“Human intelligence is richer and more dynamic than we have been led to believe by formal academic education.”**

**Sir Ken Robinson**  
Out of Our Minds: Learning to be Creative

**Part of education is learning. And what drives learning is curiosity and collaboration.**



**“If you’re not prepared to be wrong, you’ll never come up with anything original.”**

– SIR KEN ROBINSON